EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Prepared July 18, 2000

Mine Name: Timpie Solar Ponds
Operator: Cargill Salt
15100 West Rowley Road
P.O. Box 648
Grantsville, Utah 84029
Telephone: 435-884-0123

Contact Person: Lyndon Jones

Life of Mine: 50 years +

I.D. No.: M/045/030
County: Tooele
New/Existing: Existing
Mineral Ownership: State
Surface Ownership: State; BLM; Fee
Lease No.(s): SULA - 107 & 721; BLM U-72411, U-72412, U-72413; and U-0128692
Permit Term: Life of Mine

Legal Description: Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, T1S, R7W; Sections 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34, T1N, R7W; Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 12, T1S, R8W; and Sections 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, and 36, T1N, R8W, Tooele County, Utah

Mineral(s) to be Mined: Salt (NaCl)

Acres to be Disturbed: Minesite (operating, storage, disposal areas, etc.) - 17,100 acres; associated on-site processing facilities - 153 acres

Present Land Use: Mining by solar evaporation

Postmining Land Use: Area to return to lake bed playa conditions

Variances from Reclamation Standards (Rule R647) Granted: None

Soils and Geology

Soil Description: The majority of the site involves the Saltair Playas complex soil type. This soil is very deep and poorly drained. It is typically strongly saline. The surface layer varies from silty loam, silty clay loam and sandy loam. This soil is saturated with water most of the year. There are some areas of well drained Skumpah soils under shadscale and greasewood, sandy Dynal soils on vegetated politic dunes and sandy Yenrab soils on vegetated sand dunes.

pH: Not known

Special Handling Problems: None

Geology Description: The facility is located on the lake bed alluvial plain of Skull Valley. Surface relief to the south has a slight rise into the valley. Surface relief to the north is relatively flat. Subsurface geology is a nondescript stratigraphy of alluvial deposits including sands and silts with occasional clays in the form of lenses.

Hydrology

Ground Water Description: The water table in this area is from 3 to 5 feet below grade. The hydrology of the surrounding area is northerly surface drainage which would reestablish itself easily during postmining.

Surface Water Description: All surface water at the site is collected into evaporation ponds system. After Sodium Chloride is deposited, the brine flows back into MagCorp pond system.

Water Monitoring Plan: No discharge

Ecology

Vegetation Type(s); Dominant Species: The salt evaporating ponds are located on alkali/mud flats comprised of sodium saturated clay soils with sparse vegetation. This vegetation was not intensively sampled. Predominant perennial species include Saltbush, Alkali Sacaton, Rabbitbrush and Sagebrush. Annual weedy species include clasping pepperweed, downy brome, Japanese brome, kochia, and Russian thistle.

Percent Surrounding Vegetative Cover: The total vegetation of the surrounding area is approximately 1%.

Wildlife Concerns: The facility is adjacent to the Timpie Waterfowl Area. Waterfowl frequent the area. The area will remain unaffected postmining. Occasional fox and badger are seen within the pond area.

Surface Facilities: Office trailer, empty bag storage warehouse, processing/warehouse, heavy equipment maintenance shop, long belt, salt wash plant, fuel area, rail track/scale, truck scale, rail loadout facility, pump building, salt stockpiles, salt evaporation ponds, dikes, canals, access/service roads.

Mining and Reclamation Plan Summary:

During Operations: This is an existing solar salt evaporation operation previously owned by Akzo Salt of Utah. Salt water is evaporated, concentrated and circulated through a series of large shallow ponds. The concentrated brine eventually reaches saturation and salt is precipitated and deposited on the bottom of the crystalizing ponds. The salt is harvested from these ponds and is then transported to the wash plant where it is cleaned and dewatered, then stockpiled for storage. Salt is then conveyed to the mill where it is dried and screened. The salt is then either further processed, bagged or shipped to market.

After Operations: All processing facilities, buildings/structures will be demolished and the debris removed from the site. The affected area will then be regraded. The stockpile location will be ripped and turned, then covered with 12 inches of topsoil. The facilities and stockpile areas will be seeded as directed by the Division and the approved reclamation plan. The north dike will be left intact to protect route I-80 from flooding. The dikes protecting the Timpie waterfowl area will also remain in place. Two concrete gates will be removed, all other gates will be opened to let the containment dikes erode naturally over time.

Surety

Amount: $1,919,000
Form: Surety Bond
Renewable Term: 5 years

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